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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Atul Puri

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05/19/2004

Samuel H. Dworetsky

AT&T CORP.

P.O. Box 4110

Middletown, NJ 07748-4110

EXAMINER

RAO, ANAND SHASHIKANT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2613

3

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/874,879

Applicant(s)

PURI ET AL.

Examiner

Andy S. Rao

Art Unit

2613

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

Art Unit: 2613

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Art Unit: 2613

3. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lennon et al., (hereinafter referred to as "Lennon").

Lennon discloses an apparatus for decoding a bitstream (Lennon: column 13, lines 62-63) encoded via a plurality of encoders (Lennon: column 13, lines 25-30 and 60-61), the bitstream being divided into portions, and each portion having an associated model chosen from a plurality of predefined models (Lennon: figure 1), the apparatus comprising: a plurality of decoders (Lennon: column 13, lines 55-65); an input switch that routes each portion to a decoder of the plurality of decoders based on the associated with a different predetermined model (Lennon: column 13, lines 50-55; column 9, lines 20-27), as in claim 1.

Regarding claims 2-3, Lennon discloses having each decoder associated with a different predetermined model (Lennon: column 9, lines 20-27), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 4-5, Lennon discloses that if a portion cannot be associated with a predetermined model, then the portion is routed to a generic decoder (Lennon: column 12, lines 1-41), as in the claims.

Lennon discloses an apparatus for decoding a bitstream (Lennon: column 13, lines 62-63) comprised of video content portions (Lennon: column 5, lines 55-62), each portion having an associated model chosen from a plurality of predefined models (Lennon: figure 1) and having been encoded via either a generic encoder or an encoder from a plurality of encoders (Lennon: column 13, lines 25-30 and 60-61), the apparatus comprising: an input switch that received the encoded bitstream (Lennon: column 6, lines 1-34); a plurality of decoders (Lennon: column 13, lines 55-65), wherein the input switch that routes each portion to a decoder of the plurality of

Art Unit: 2613

decoders based on the associated with a different predetermined model (Lennon: column 13, lines 50-55; column 9, lines 20-27), as in claim 6.

Regarding claims 7-8, Lennon discloses having each decoder associated with a different predetermined model (Lennon: column 9, lines 20-27), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 9-10, Lennon discloses that the models are associated with the video characteristics of the portions (Lennon: column 5, lines 25-44; column 9, lines 20-32) as in the claims.

Lennon discloses a device for decoding (Lennon: column 13, lines 62-63) video content divided into portions (Lennon: column 5, lines 55-62), each portion being associated with a generic model or a model from a plurality of predefined models (Lennon: figure 1), the device comprising: a generic decoder (Lennon: column 13, lines 62-63); a plurality of decoders (Lennon: column 13, lines 55-65), each decoder of the plurality of decoders being associated with a different model of the plurality of predefined models (Lennon: column 13, lines 50-55); and a switch that routes each portion (Lennon: column 6, lines 34) to a decoder of the plurality of decoders based on the model associated with the video content portion (Lennon: column 9, lines 20-27), as in claim 11.

Lennon discloses an apparatus for decoding (Lennon: column 13, lines 62-63) video content encoded portions (Lennon: column 5, lines 55-62) by either a generic encoder or an encoder chosen from a plurality of encoders (Lennon: column 13, lines 25-30 and 60-61), each of the plurality of encoders associated with a model chosen from a plurality of predetermined models (Lennon: figure 1) related to the characteristics of the video content (Lennon: column 5, lines 55-63), the video content having video content descriptors used for characterizing the video

Art Unit: 2613

content (Lennon: column 13, lines 35-40), the apparatus comprising: a switch receiving at a first input port a control signal and receiving the video content at a second input port (Lennon: column 8, lines 20-35), the control signal being associated with the video content descriptors, the switch having a plurality output ports (Lennon: column 5, lines 55-63); a generic decoder connected to an output port of the plurality of switch output ports (Lennon: column 13, lines 59-62); a plurality of decoders (Lennon: column 13, lines 55-65), each decoder of the plurality of decoders being connected to an output port of the plurality of switch output ports and being associated with a model of the plurality of predetermined models related to the characteristics of the video content (Lennon: column 9, lines 20-27), wherein the video content is routed to either the decoder or a decoder of the plurality of decoders by the switch (Lennon: column 13, lines 50-55), as in claims 12 and 15.

Regarding claim 13, Lennon discloses that the video content comprises a subsegment (Lennon: column 9, lines 4-10), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 14, Lennon discloses wherein a portion further comprises a video content region of interest (Lennon: column 9, lines 40-65) as in the claim.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Krishnamurthy discloses a method and apparatus for region based allocation of processing resources. Katata discloses a motion image coding apparatus. Krishnamurthy discloses an intra-frame quantizer selection for video compression. Chen discloses a system and method for use with fine granular scalability. Liang discloses a system and method for object

Art Unit: 2613

identification and behavior characterization using video analysis. Watson discloses a method and apparatus for evaluating the visual quality of processing digital video sequences. Schileru-Key discloses a graph based visual navigation through spatial environments.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy S. Rao whose telephone number is (703)-305-4813. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris S. Kelley can be reached on (703)-305-4856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Andy S. Rao
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2613

ANDY RAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER



asr
May 14, 2004